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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Army Engineering School at Litomerice

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The Army Engineering School at Litomerice (N51/F53) instructs and trains new officers, both active and reserve, assigned to engineering units in the Czechoslovak Army. Special lectures for the students of the Staff College are prepared, and from time to time officers from various engineering units are ordered to attend short courses at the AES. In addition, courses for officers of the infantry, tank units, airborne troops, and SNB Corps are given at the AES.
2. Military Academy Classes train cadets who will, upon graduation, become active officers in engineering units. A special class of cadet students has been organized as the 2nd class of the Military Academy. Students of these classes must have completed the first year of the Military Academy at Hranice (P50/025) or be graduate cadets of the Reserve Officers' Engineering School at Litomerice who have passed the entrance examination for the Military Academy at Hranice.
3. The Reserve Officers' Engineering School trains soldiers who have passed the matriculation examination and non-commissioned officers of engineering units who have completed five months at the Non-Commissioned Officers' School. The first group's course lasts nine months; the second, four months.
4. A course for platoon commanders of infantry, artillery, and tank regiments and battalions is the third type course given at the Academy. The last known course began in May 1949 and was to have lasted five months. Approximately 50 students, all lieutenants, attended this course, which consisted of the usual reserve officer engineering training and included water problems.
5. A course for members of the SNB and the Finance Guards was given from February through June 1949. Fifty to sixty students with the rank of SNB warrant officers and five captains attended this course, which consisted of the following subjects:
 - a. The use of explosives
 - b. The use and placement of field mines
 - c. Construction of emergency bridges

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- d. Construction of buildings
- e. Technical emergency service

Neither the instructors nor the students know what type of assignment will be given them on completion of this course, but, according to source, there are indications that they will become leaders of emergency units of civil air defense.

6. Personnel at the AES headquarters (partial list):

- a. Commanding officer is Col. Ing. Jan Belohoubek, Czech, age 40, weight 80 - 85 kg, height 178 cm, oval face, brown eyes, dark black hair, member of the Communist Party, married, no children. He is scheduled to take training in the USSR at the Voroshilov or the Engineering Academy in Moscow.
- b. Deputy Commanding Officer is Col. Ing. Josef Novak, Czech, age 42-45, weight 80 kg, height 180 cm, narrow face, grey eyes, light chestnut hair, a member of the Communist Party.
- c. Chief of Staff is Staff Captain Oldrich Kubes, Czech, age 42-45, weight 70 kg, height 173 cm, small dark face, sparse chestnut hair, married.
- d. An attached officer is 1st Lt. Piskac (fnu), Czech, age 26-27, height 170 cm, oval face, blue eyes, brown hair, not a member of the Communist Party, single.
- e. An attached Soviet expert is Col. Pisarjevski (fnu), Russian, age 48-50, weight 83 kg, height 177 cm, oval face, blue eyes, sparse chestnut hair. He does not come in contact with many people, but is a key man in the AES.

7. Some members of the administrative staff are:

- a. 1st Lt. Jan Skalicky, Czech age 50, weight 75 kg, height 172 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, hard of hearing. He joined the Communist Party after the coup.
- b. Acting Sgt. Lunak (fnu), Czech, age 26, weight 70 kg, oval face, brown eyes, dark chestnut hair, single, member of the Communist Party.
- c. Acting Sgt. Klepsa (fnu), Czech, age 28, weight 76 kg, height 176 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, single, a member of the Communist Party before the coup.

8. Some of their personnel in the Quartermaster's Office are:

- a. The Quartermaster is Lt. Col. Rezl (fnu), Czech, age 48-50, weight 85-88 kg, blue eyes, chestnut hair, partly bald, not an active member of the Communist Party, married, but has no children.
- b. The Deputy Quartermaster is Capt. Zeman (fnu), age 43-45, weight 80-85 kg, height 170 cm, blue eyes, chestnut hair, oval face, not an active member of the Communist Party.
- c. Attached officers are 2nd Lt. Josef Nespor, Czech, age 33-35, weight 78-82 kg, height 176 cm, oval face, dark hair, grey eyes, member of the Communist Party before the coup, and 2nd Lt. Antonin Krasny, age 35-37, weight 75 kgs, height 174 cm, oval face, dark brown eyes, black hair, a member of the Communist Party before the coup.

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- d. Acting Sgt. Maj. Josef Svejda, Czech, age 26-27, weight 72-75 kg, height 170 cm, oval face, bad teeth, blue eyes, chestnut hair, married, has one child. He became a member of the Communist Party after the coup, but is not an active Communist.
 - e. Acting Sgt. Maj. Brom (fnu), Czech 26-28, weight 80-85 kg, height 178 cm, oval face, brown eyes, dark chestnut hair, and a member of the Communist Party before the coup.
 - f. Food Officer is 2nd Lt. Iseba (fnu), Czech, age 33, weight 78 kg, oval face, blond chestnut hair, blue eyes, married, has one child, is not a convinced Communist.
 - g. The Barracks Administrator is Lt. Jan Halouska, Czech, age 48-50, weight 78 kg, height 173 cm, oval face, blue eyes, became a member of the Communist Party after the coup.
9. The Technical Administration is made up of:
- a. Lt. Antonin Sadil, the commanding officer, Czech, age 30-31, weight 77 kg, height 175 cm, oval face, grey eyes, dark chestnut hair, and a mustache. A member of the Communist Party before February 1948. He is a career-seeker and an informer.
 - b. Lt. Silhan (fnu), Czech, age 48-50, weight 65-68 kg, height 173 cm, long face, blue eyes, eyeglasses, chestnut hair, a member of the Communist Party before February 1948.
10. The Water Training and Explosive Store Administrator is:
- a. 2nd Lt. Hrzan (fnu), Czech, age 30-32, weight 85-90 kg, height 165 cm, oval face, blue eyes, blond hair, spectacles, married, has one child, was a member of the Communist Party before February 1948.
11. The Administrator for Communications Material is:
- a. Acting Sgt. Miroslav Mysak, Czech, age 26-27, weight 64-65 kg, height 167 cm, small face, brown eyes, black hair. Although he is now a member, he did not want to apply for membership in the Communist Party and therefore is considered unreliable.
12. The Transportation Officer is Capt. Rostislav Zafic, Czech, age 30, weight 78 - 80 kg, height 178 cm, long face, blue eyes, spectacles, light chestnut hair. He became a member of the Communist Party after 1948 and is not considered reliable.
- a. The Deputy Transportation Officer is Lt. Jan Bechyne, Czech, age 36-38, weight 78 kg, height 178 cm, long face, grey green eyes, dark chestnut hair, not very intelligent. He is a fanatical Communist and an informer.
 - b. An attached Transportation Officer is 2nd Lt. Jan Bulant, Czech, age 30-32, weight 80-86 kg, height 173 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, a member of the Communist Party, married.
 - c. The Chief Driver is Sgt. Major Kracik (fnu), Czech, age 30, weight 70 kg, height 173 cm, large bony face, blue grey eyes, chestnut hair. He was a member of the Communist Party before the coup, but is not considered reliable. He is married and has one child.

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13. The Headquarters Company includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is 1st Lt. Miroslav Novak, Czech from Volyn, age 32, weight 90 kg, height 178 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair. He became a member of the Communist Party after February 1948 but is privately opposed to the Communist ideals. He was an officer of the Eastern Czechoslovak Army in the USSR.
- b. The Executive Sgt. Major is Sgt. Major Vaclav Kopecky, Czech, age 27, 68-70 kg, height 165-170 cm, blue eyes, chestnut hair. He is a member of the Communist Party, is married, and has one child.
- c. The Bookkeeper is Lt. Quartermaster Brodsky (fma), age 48, weight 70 kg, height 175 cm, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party, married, has one child.

14. The Training Company includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Lt. Jiri Zelenka, Czech, age 26-27, weight 75 kg, height 174 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party, married but has no children.
- b. The Chief Driver for the CO is Acting Sgt. Jaroslav Suta, Czech, age 27, weight 78-80 kg, height 178 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party, is married and has one child.

15. The Commanding Officer of the School Battalion is Lt. Col. Frantisek Otahal, Czech, age 48-49, weight 90 kg, height 170 cm, blue eyes, chestnut hair, partly bald, oval face, member of the Communist Party, is married and has two children.

16. The Military Academy Class includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Rudolf Gregor, Czech, age 42-43, weight 80 kg, height 177 cm, brown eyes, black hair, slender build, an active member of the Communist Party.
- b. The Deputy CO is Jaroslav Sebek, Czech, age 26-27, weight 70 kg, height 174 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party.

17. The 1st School Company includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Antonin Moravec, Czech, age 40, weight 75-80 kg, height 179 cm, long thin face, gray-green eyes, dark hair, member of the Communist Party, is married with one child.
- b. The Deputy CO is 1st Lt. Jan Vajs, Czech, age 26, weight 72-75 kg, height 170 cm, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party but privately opposed to the Communists.
- c. An officer attached to this company is Lt. Ladislav Haler, Czech, age 27, weight 80 kg, height 173-174 cm, oval face, blue eyes, blond hair, member of the Communist Party, and considered dangerous; he is single.

18. The 2nd School Company (engineers) includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is 1st Lt. Rudolf Marustiak, Czech, age 28-29, weight 77 kg, height 176 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party; he is single.
- b. An attached officer is 1st Lt. Martin Hencel, Czech, age 28, weight 90 kg, height 177 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party although not a convinced Communist; he is single.

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- c. Another attached officer is Lt. Rostislav Mikolaj, Slovak, age 24, weight 80-82 kg, height 175 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party but privately very much opposed to Communism, is married and has one child.

19. The 3rd School Company (pioneers) includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Zahrubsky (fnu), Czech, age 43, weight 78 kg, height 177 cm, long face, brown eyes, dark hair. Other details unknown.
- b. An attached officer is 1st Lt. Horak (fnu), Czech, age 29, weight 75 kg, height 173 cm, oval face, gray eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party.
- c. Another attached officer is Lt. Jan Halekal, Czech, age 30, weight 68 kg, height 176 cm, long gaunt face, gray eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party, is considered dangerous.

20. The 4th School Company (engineers) includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Oldrich Svoboda, Czech, age 45, weight 85 kg, height 168 cm, short and stout, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party but privately opposed to Communism, is married and has one child. Capt. Svoboda transferred from the 1st Regiment (engineer), Terezin, to this company.
- b. Officers attached to this company are:
 - 1) Lt. Zdenek Bousa, Czech, age 25, weight 68-70 kg, height 168 cm, oval face, boyish, brown eyes, dark hair, member of the Communist Party and a convinced Communist; he is single. Lt. Bousa transferred from the Engineer Battalion, Michalovice, to this company.
 - 2) Lt. Karol Hascic, Slovak, age 25, weight 75 kg, height 166 cm, oval face, dark hair, and mustache, brown eyes, member of the Communist Party. Lt. Hascic transferred from the 3rd Engineer Regiment, Kromeriz, to this company.
 - 3) Lt. Zdenek Cermak, Czech, age 25, weight 70 kg, height 176 cm, long face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party although privately not a Communist; he is single. Lt. Cermak transferred from the 1st Engineer Regiment in Terezin to this company.

21. The Training Group includes:

- a. The leader of this group is Lt. Col Mudra (fnu), Czech, age 45, weight 65 kg, height 163 cm, gaunt face, blue eyes, blond hair, spectacles, member of the Communist Party but probably not a convinced Communist; is married and has one child.

22. The Demolition Training Group includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Josef Bruza, Czech, age 39, weight 80 kg, height 175 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, partly bald, member of the Communist Party but not a convinced Communist, expert at mine laying, is married and has one child.
- b. The Deputy CO is Staff Capt. Vlastimil Kukan, Czech, age 38, weight 72 kg, height 168 cm, gaunt face, light skin, dark blue eyes, dark chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party, considered cautious, is married and has two children.

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c. Officers attached to the group are:

- 1) Staff Capt. Adamczik (fnu), Czech from Volyn, age 36-37, weight 80 kg, height 176 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party but privately opposed to Communism, is married and has two children.
- 2) Lt. Vladimir Rychlik, Czech, age 28, weight 70 kg, height 167 cm, oval face, brown eyes, dark sparse hair, member of the Communist Party, considered cautious. Lt. Rychlik transferred from the Engineer Battalion in Olomouc to this group.

23. The Ground Engineering Group includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Staff Capt. Jan. Luzum, Czech, age 43, weight 85 kg, height 177 cm, oval face, blue eyes, grey hair, member of the Communist Party, is single.
- b. The Deputy CO is Staff Capt. Karel Podivin, Czech, age 38, weight 72 kg, height 173 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair and mustache, member of the Communist Party, is married but has no children.
- c. Officers attached to this group are:
 - 1) Staff Capt. Straka (fnu), Czech, age 38, weight 78 kg, height 177 cm, oval face, blue-eyes, light chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party. Capt. Straka attended the course for study of air photos.
 - 2) Lt. Jiri Metalec, Czech, age 27, weight 76 kg, height 170 cm, oval face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, to date not a member of the Communist Party. He taught combat training and the use of poison gas.

24. The Water Engineering Group includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Lt. Col. Frantisek Vesely, Czech, age 50, weight 90 kg, height 168 cm, oval face, blue eyes, partly bald, a fanatical member of the Communist Party.
- b. The Deputy CO Capt. Miroslav Pouzar, Czech from Volyn, age 30, weight 80 kg, height 177 cm, long face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party but privately not a Communist.
- c. An officer attached to this group is Lt. Josef Kepka, Czech, age 26, weight 70 kg, height 174 cm, thin face, blue eyes, chestnut hair, considered harmless, is married but has no children.

25. The Tactical Studies Group includes:

- a. The Commanding Officer is Major of the Main Staff Stejskal (fnu), Czech, age 48, weight 70 kg, height 171 cm, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, spectacles. The date of his membership in the Communist Party is unknown.
- b. The Educational Officer is Maj. Ing. Jaroslav Krivna, Czech, age 43, weight 90 kg, height 174 cm, oval face, blue eyes, grey hair, has been a member of the Communist Party since 1947, is married and has one child.
- c. The Security Officer is Lt. Fospisil (fnu), Czech, age 32, weight 78 kg, height 178 cm, thin bony build, dark complexioned, low forehead, black hair, dark brown eyes, member of the Communist Party and considered tough and dangerous, lacks sufficient education but finished the first year of the Military Academy at Litomerice.

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- d. The Physical Education Officer is Lt. Jan Hruska, Czech, age 25, weight 76 kg, height 174 cm, oval face, blue eyes, light chestnut hair, a convinced Communist, is married and has one child.
 - e. The Chief Physician is Maj. Rudolf Vodrazka MUDr, Czech, age 39, weight 80 kg, height 178 cm, long face, blue eyes, dark chestnut hair, member of the Communist Party and a convinced Communist; he is married.
 - f. The Deputy Physician is Lt. Jan Hyka, Czech, age 50, weight 95 kg, height 176 cm, oval face, blue eyes, grey hair, member of the Communist Party, is married and has one child.
26. In the 1947 - 1948 training period there were two platoons totalling 50 students, and two companies totalling 232 cadets. In the 1948 - 1949 training period there were one platoon totalling 43 students and four companies totalling 492 cadets. Of these groups, 375 passed the matriculation examination.
27. Some courses of instructions at the reserve Engineering School are:
- a. Mines and mine laying.
 - b. Explosive material and demolition, which includes types of explosive materials and their chemical composition, detonators, detonating systems, and the technique of demolitions of all types of objects.
 - c. Above-ground construction - planning of billets and other buildings, estimation of material and labor.
 - d. Field fortification and camouflage - equipment used and digging technique for trenches, machinegun positions, gun positions for light and heavy artillery, mortars, shelters, observation posts, and fighting positions. Construction of obstacles for infantry, tanks, and water approaches.
 - e. Tactics - organization of infantry, artillery, tank units, air force, communication units, engineering units, and engineering battalions during defensive and offensive action.
 - f. Emergency bridges - building of combat foot bridges, auxiliary boats, movable and immovable platforms, construction study of different bridge systems, over-bridging of obstacles.
 - g. War bridges - Bailey bridges, organization of troops for building, German bridge system.
 - h. Road construction - construction of roadbeds, types of roads, construction elements with respect to military needs, auxiliary construction of roadways.
 - i. Chemical warfare - instruction in the use of irritable, stifling, poisonous, and adhesive gases, their composition, defensive measures, flame throwers, bottles of combustibles, and smoke screens.
 - j. Air field construction-- building and equipping of air fields, construction of runways for all types of aircraft, dispersal points and air shelters.

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- k. Construction machines - the use and potential of bulldozers, scrapers, steam and gasoline rollers.
- l. Construction of camps - camp establishments and equipment.
- m. Liaison and communications - types and functions of communication systems and equipment, traffic regulations.
- n. Security and counter espionage defense - defense against military and industrial espionage.
- o. Quartermaster's administration.
- p. Terrain description - maps.
- q. Theory of arms and armament.
- r. The use of manuals.
- s. Infantry training - parade drill and combat training.
- t. Water training - use of rubber boats, pontoons bridges, anchor pontoons, combined pontoon boats, and motor boats; instruction in forced crossings.

Encls: 1a Map of portion of Litomerice, showing Army Engineering School.
1b Key to 1a.
2a Map of portion of Kromeriz, showing military establishments.
2b Key to 2a.
3a)
3b) Maps of Jihlava.
3c Key to 3a and 3b.

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